

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. - 4. (Cancelled).

5. (Currently Amended) ~~The~~ An isolated substrate polypeptide for ADAMTS-13 of claim 4 a disintegrin-like and metalloprotease with thrombospondin type-1 motif, 13 (ADAMTS-13), which begins at amino acid 1587 and ends at amino acid 1668 of the amino acid sequence of wild-type human [[VWF]] von Willebrand factor (VWF) depicted in SEQ ID NO: 1 in the Sequence Listing.

6. (Currently Amended) ~~The~~ An isolated substrate polypeptide for ADAMTS-13 of claim 4 a disintegrin-like and metalloprotease with thrombospondin type-1 motif, 13 (ADAMTS-13), which begins at amino acid 1596 and ends at amino acid 1668 of the amino acid sequence of wild-type human [[VWF]] von Willebrand factor (VWF) depicted in SEQ ID NO: 1 in the Sequence Listing.

7. - 8. (Cancelled).

9. (Currently Amended) ~~The An isolated mutant substrate polypeptide for ADAMTS-13 of claim 7, which has an amino acid sequence homology identity of at least 90% or higher to the substrate polypeptide for ADAMTS-13 of claim 5 and which retains the specificity for ADAMTS-13.~~

10. (Cancelled).

11. (Currently Amended) ~~The mutant substrate polypeptide for ADAMTS-13 according to claim 7~~ The substrate polypeptide for ADAMTS-13 according to claim 5 having a tag sequence attached at the N-terminal and/or at the C-terminal.

12. (Currently Amended) ~~The mutant substrate polypeptide for ADAMTS-13 according to claim 11 ,~~ The substrate polypeptide for ADAMTS-13 or the mutant substrate polypeptide for ADAMTS-13 according to claim 11, wherein the tag is selected the group consisting of proteins, peptides, coupling agents, radioactive labels, and chromophores.

13. (Currently Amended) ~~The mutant substrate polypeptide for ADAMTS-13 according to claim 11 or 12~~ The substrate polypeptide for ADAMTS-13 or the mutant substrate polypeptide for ADAMTS-13 according to claim 11, wherein the tag is for immobilization on a solid phase.

14. (Currently Amended) ~~The substrate mutant polypeptide for ADAMTS-13 according to claim 13~~ The substrate polypeptide for ADAMTS-13 or the mutant substrate polypeptide for ADAMTS-13 according to claim 13, which is immobilized on a solid phase.

15. (Withdrawn) A method for measuring ADAMTS-13 activity in a subject, which comprises contacting a mutant substrate polypeptide for ADAMTS-13 according to claim 7, with plasma obtained from a normal subject, followed by analyzing resultant polypeptide fragments to make a control; and contacting said mutant substrate polypeptide for ADAMTS-13 with plasma obtained from the subject, followed by analyzing resultant polypeptide fragments in a similar way and making a comparison with the control.

16. (Withdrawn) A high throughput method for measuring the activity of ADAMTS-13 in plasma from subjects, which comprises employing a mutant substrate polypeptide for ADAMTS-13 according to claim 7.

17. (Currently Amended) A diagnostic composition for *in vitro* ~~test~~ testing of the decrease or deficiency of ADAMTS-13 activity in a patient, comprising ~~mutant substrate polypeptide for ADAMTS-13 according to claim 7~~ the substrate polypeptide for ADAMTS-13 according to claim 5 or 6, or the mutant substrate polypeptide for ADAMTS-13 according to claim 9.

18. (Currently Amended) A kit for *in vitro* ~~test~~ testing of the decrease or deficiency of ADAMTS-13 activity in a patient, comprising as the essential component ~~mutant substrate polypeptide for ADAMTS-13 according to claim 7~~ the substrate polypeptide for ADAMTS-13 according to claim 5 or 6.

19. (Cancelled).

20. (New) A kit for *in vitro* testing of the decrease or deficiency of ADAMTS-13 activity in a patient, comprising as the essential component the mutant substrate polypeptide for ADAMTS-13 according to claim 9.

21. (New) A kit for *in vitro* testing of the decrease or deficiency of ADAMTS-13 activity in a patient, comprising as the essential component the mutant substrate polypeptide for ADAMTS-13 according to claim 11.

22. (New) A kit for *in vitro* testing of the decrease or deficiency of ADAMTS-13 activity in a patient, comprising as the essential component the mutant substrate polypeptide for ADAMTS-13 according to claim 12.

23. (New) A kit for *in vitro* testing of the decrease or deficiency of ADAMTS-13 activity in a patient, comprising as the essential component the mutant substrate polypeptide for ADAMTS-13 according to claim 13.

24. (New) A kit for *in vitro* testing of the decrease or deficiency of ADAMTS-13 activity in a patient, comprising as the essential component the mutant substrate polypeptide for ADAMTS-13 according to claim 14.